

Cohesion in Written Discourse: A Case Study of Arab EFL Students

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Abstract

This study analyses cohesion and coherence in selected discourses written by advanced learners in the Department of English at Najran University, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. A case study of Master Degree (M A) students in the female section of Najran University English Department discovers a number of results that show that writing is still a great difficulty for them even at a relatively higher level of education. They show weakness in logical thought and organizational pattern. They lack the fundamental knowledge of the rules of syntax, inter-sentence relations, cohesive devices and other advanced methods of composition. The study is expected to help L2 Saudi teachers to address the problems of cohesion and coherence at discourse level and take pedagogical precautions to prevent them. The study follows content analysis method.

Keywords: cohesive devices, cohesion errors, discourse analysis, lexis, organization

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